



1. (Once Amended) A system for gathering and analyzing data relating to an asset comprising:

A1 a local controller located at a first location for acquiring data that is representative of at least one operating characteristic of the asset;

an analysis controller located at a second location that is responsive to said acquired data from said local controller for generating an analysis of said acquired data, said analysis controller being configured to determine whether maintenance of the asset has been provided; and

an electronic communications network connected between said local controller and said analysis controller and permitting transmission of said acquired data from said local controller to said analysis controller.

10. (Once Amended) A method for gathering and analyzing data relating to an asset comprising the steps of:

A2 (a) acquiring data that is representative of at least one operational characteristic of the asset;

(b) transmitting the acquired data through the internet to an analysis controller; [and]

(c) generating an analysis of the transmitted data[.]; and

(d) automatically delivering said analysis through the internet.

A3 14. (Once Amended) The method defined in Claim 10 [including the further] wherein step (d) comprises the substep of transmitting the analysis of the transmitted data through the internet to an administrative controller.

15. (Once Amended) The method defined in Claim 10 [including the further] wherein step (d) comprises the substep of posting the analysis of the transmitted data on a website maintained on the internet.

17. (New) The system defined in Claim 1 wherein said analysis controller is configured to use at least a portion of said acquired data in determining warranty coverage.

18. (New) The system defined in Claim 17 wherein said at least portion comprises an amount of usage of the asset, said analysis controller being configured to compare said amount of usage with warranty information contained in a record associated with the asset.

19. (New) The system defined in Claim 1 wherein said analysis controller is configured to generate management reports relating to the procurement and utilization of the asset.

20. (New) The system defined in Claim 19 wherein said analysis controller is configured to post said reports to a website maintained on the internet.

REMARKS

Prior to a formal examination of the above-identified application, acceptance of the amendments to claims 1, 10, and 14-15 and the addition of new claims 17-20 is respectfully requested.

STATEMENT

It is believed that no fees are due. However, if any additional fees are required in connection with the filing of this paper, permission is given to charge account number